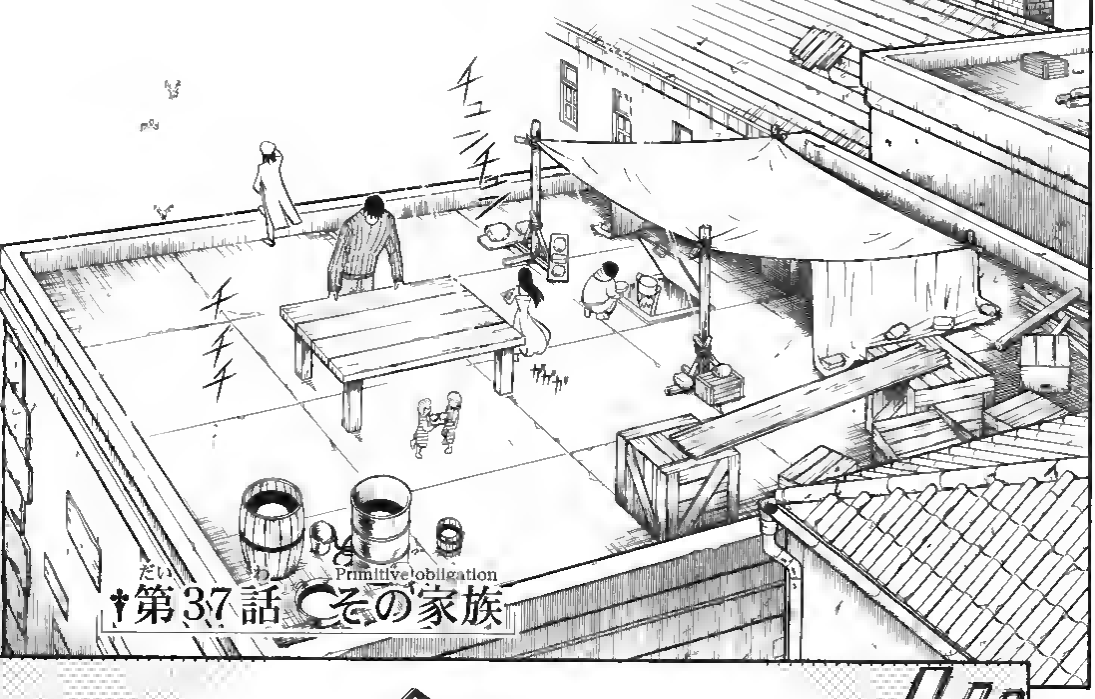
HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE?
HEY, BRAT!
HIDEOUT!
THIS IS OUR, "THE TUMBLE-WEED'S"

CHEEP CHEEP
CHIRP CHIRP!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE . . .
SINCE I'VE HAD A DREAM WITHOUT THE "HANDS" . . .
NNG...
snuggle
AH...

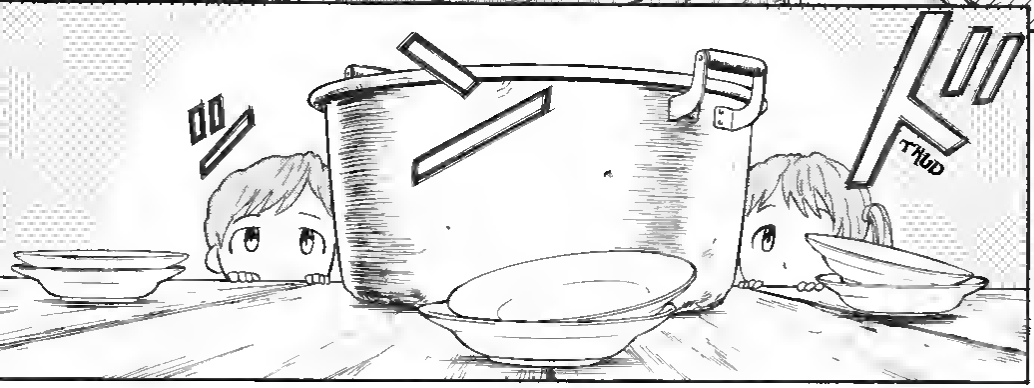
CLACK
BREAK-FAST IS REA...
KNOTS
COME ON, URSULA...
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO'S HAPPY THAT BIG BRO IS BACK, YOU KNOW?
YOU'RE TOO POSSESS-IVE!

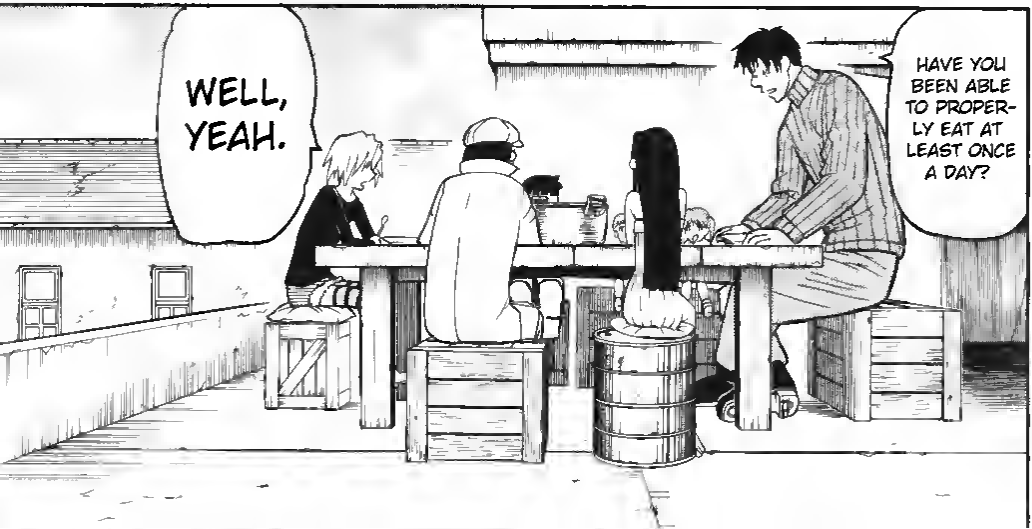
IT'S... IT'S NOT LIKE I'M HAPPY OR ANY-THING...
HEY. BIG BRO!
HOW ABOUT ME? WE'VE HEARD YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT URSULA,
DON'T YOU THINK I'VE CHANGED A LOT?
YOU SURE HAVE ...
HE HE HE, GREAT!
BRO! GUYS!
THE WEATHER'S NICE, SO LET'S EAT ON THE ROOF!



†第37話 その家族

Primitive obligation





POSTAL SERVICE...
HE'S WORKING AS A SUB-STITUTE FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE.
RIGHT NOW, IDATEN HAS THE MOST STABLE INCOME.
THAT IS-
!
I CAME HERE TO CHECK UP ON THAT. IF IT HASN'T,
BY THE WAY, HAS THE MONEY I SENT BEEN DELIVER-ED?
I CAN'T GO BACK WITHOUT WORRY.
?
!?
BAM
STOMP
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN-

WE HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANYTHING.
MAYBE IT WAS STOLEN SOME-WHERE?
IS THAT SO...
.....
NO!
THE REST IS FOR TO-MORROW!
I WANT SEC-ONDS...
HM?
BRO-THER..
ズーズ
CLONK

BRO-THER...
WE CAN'T!
WE AREN'T WORK-ING.
FOR YOU.
KIDS SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THINGS THAT'LL MAKE US FEEL BAD!
STIR
POUR
OH, COME ON!
LIKE I ALWAYS TELL YOU!
POUR
WE HAVE THE PERFECT EXAMPLE RIGHT HERE!
LOOK!
YOU BURN FOOD QUICKLY!
YOU EARN THE MOST MONEY!
HERE!
YOU SHOULD EAT MORE!

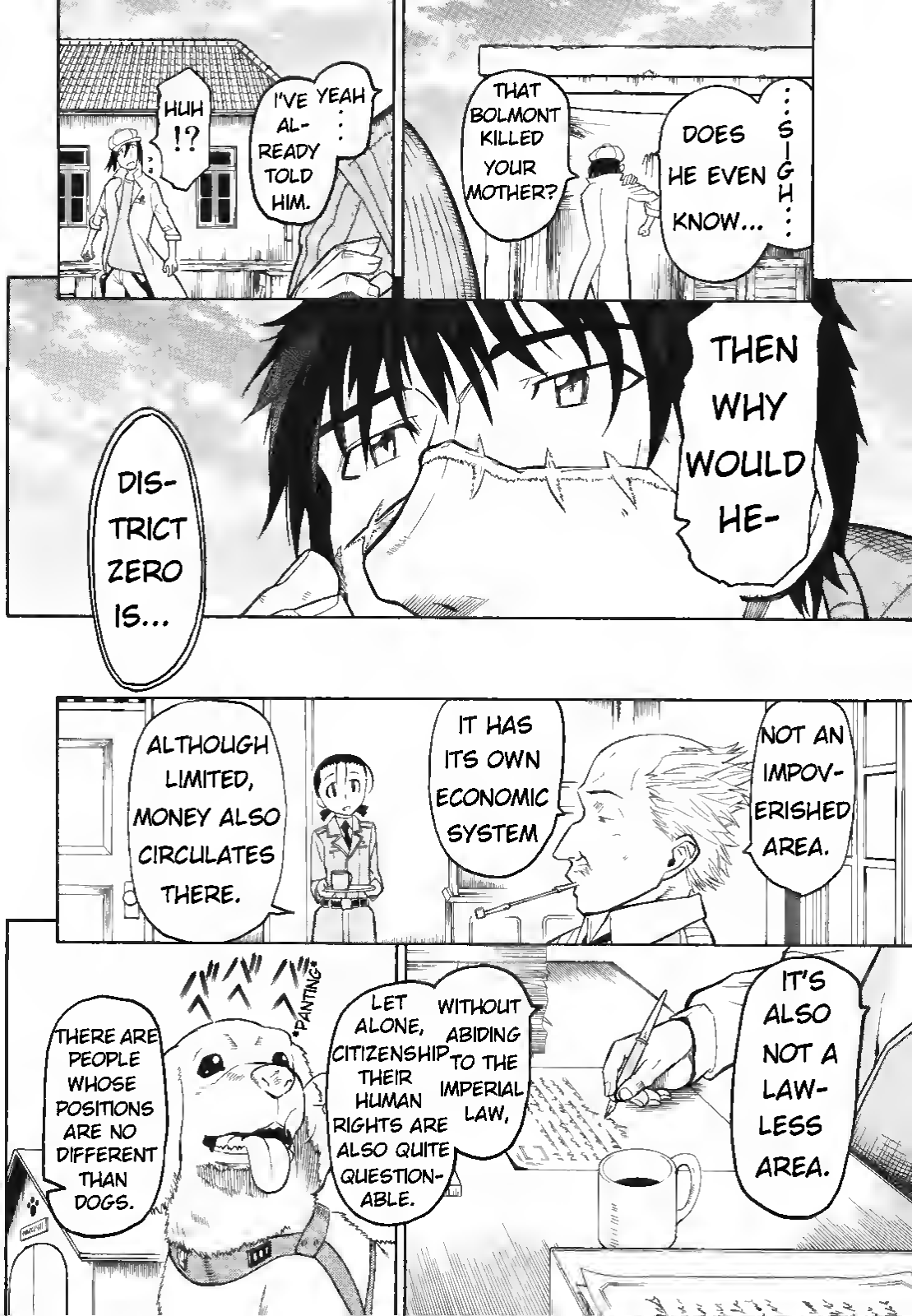
TO TOP IT OFF, WITH HIS LARGE BODY, HE EATS A LOT!
UGH...
HE'S CLUMSY, AND HE'S A COWARD, SO HE COULDN'T BE A PICK-POCKET! SO HE COULDN'T BE A ROBBER!
THIS BIG GUY!
REALLY, IT WAS A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY.
THAT WAS BECAUSE A SMARTER SIBLING TAUGHT HIM.
BY WORKING AS AN *AMANUENSIS. BUT...
HE CAN WRITE, SO HE COULD AT LEAST EARN ENOUGH FOR A BOWL OF SOUP
* LITERARY OR ARTISTIC ASSISTANT, IN PARTICULAR ONE WHO TAKES DICTATION OR COPIES MANUSCRIPTS. IN OTHER WORDS, A FANCY SECRETARY.
GEM! MELOS!
IT'S FINE! EVEN NO PROBLEM WITH THAT!
IT'S FINE IF YOU JUST FEED THE NEW KIDS ONCE YOU GROW UP!
THIS ISN'T BECAUSE WE TOOK PITY ON YOU, THIS IS ABOUT DOING THINGS IN ORDER!
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY...

YOU WERE FEELING INDEBTED TO HIM JUST FOR HAVING HIM COVER YOU IN A BLANKET, WEREN'T YOU?
HUH!?
WHY WOULD I REMEMBER SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
GULP GULP
.....
GOOD!
DON'T BE LIKE THAT, BIG BRO...
DON'T ACT LIKE
YOU'RE WATCHING US FROM AFAR.
AFTER ALL,
YOU'VE FINALLY RETURNED.

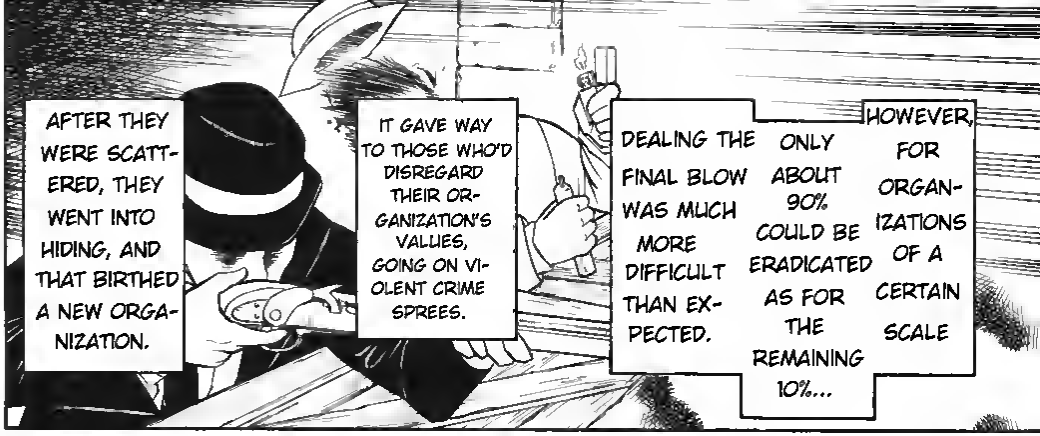
IT'S NOT JUST URSULA...
C.J. HAS GROWN UP AS WELL...
YOU CAN TELL THAT JUST FROM SEEING THEM...
YOU REALLY ARE AMAZING, BRO.

TO BE HONEST...
I'VE FELT STRANGE RECENTLY...
WELL, THERE WERE MANY KINDS OF PEOPLE AT MOM'S WORKPLACE.
SORRY...
I'M NOT GOOD WITH THINGS LIKE THAT.
HMMM...
IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT?
=
WHENEVER I SEE C.J. CHANGING HER CLOTHES, MY HEART STARTS RACING.
YOU BIG BROTHERS ARE PEOPLE WE WILL ALWAYS LOOK UP TO.
OF COURSE WE DO! TO US,
EVEN THOUGH MY PHYSIQUE HAS CHANGED.
YOU GUYS, TOO; YOU RECOGNIZED ME
HOW'S ABEL AND THE OTHERS?
THEY DIDN'T SHOW IT, BUT URSULA AND C.J. WERE ALSO SURPRISED-
I'M MORE SURPRISED BY YOUR SCARS.
RATHER THAN YOUR PHYSIQUE . . . .

. . . . . .
BIG SIS AKASIA WORKS AT THE "CAT MANSION"
BIG BRO ROPPEL CAUGHT A VERY BAD COLD AND DIED.
BIG BRO TRAMATEAU WAS KILLED DURING A FAILED PICK-POCKET ATTEMPT.
BIG BRO BLANC ENCOUNTERED A PICK-POCKET AND WAS KILLED.
HE'S WORKING AS AN ACCOUNTANT.
WORKING AT BOLMONT'S PLACE.
BIG BRO ABLE IS...
. . . . . .
I... DON'T WANT THAT...
IF THIS TURNS INTO A FACTION WAR, WE MIGHT HAVE TO FIGHT HIM.

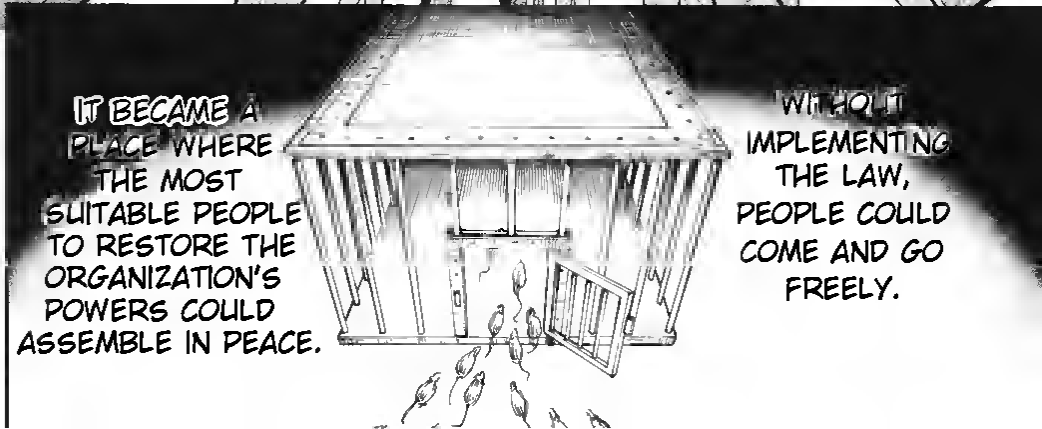

HUH!?
I'VE ALREADY TOLD HIM.
YEAH...
THAT BOLMONT KILLED YOUR MOTHER?
DOES HE EVEN KNOW...
...SIGH...
THEN WHY WOULD HE-
DISTRICT ZERO IS...
ALTHOUGH LIMITED, MONEY ALSO CIRCULATES THERE.
IT HAS ITS OWN ECONOMIC SYSTEM
NOT AN IMPOVERISHED AREA.
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHOSE POSITIONS ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN DOGS.
PANTING
LET ALONE, CITIZENSHIP THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ALSO QUITE QUESTIONABLE.
WITHOUT ABIDING TO THE IMPERIAL LAW,
IT'S ALSO NOT A LAWLESS AREA.

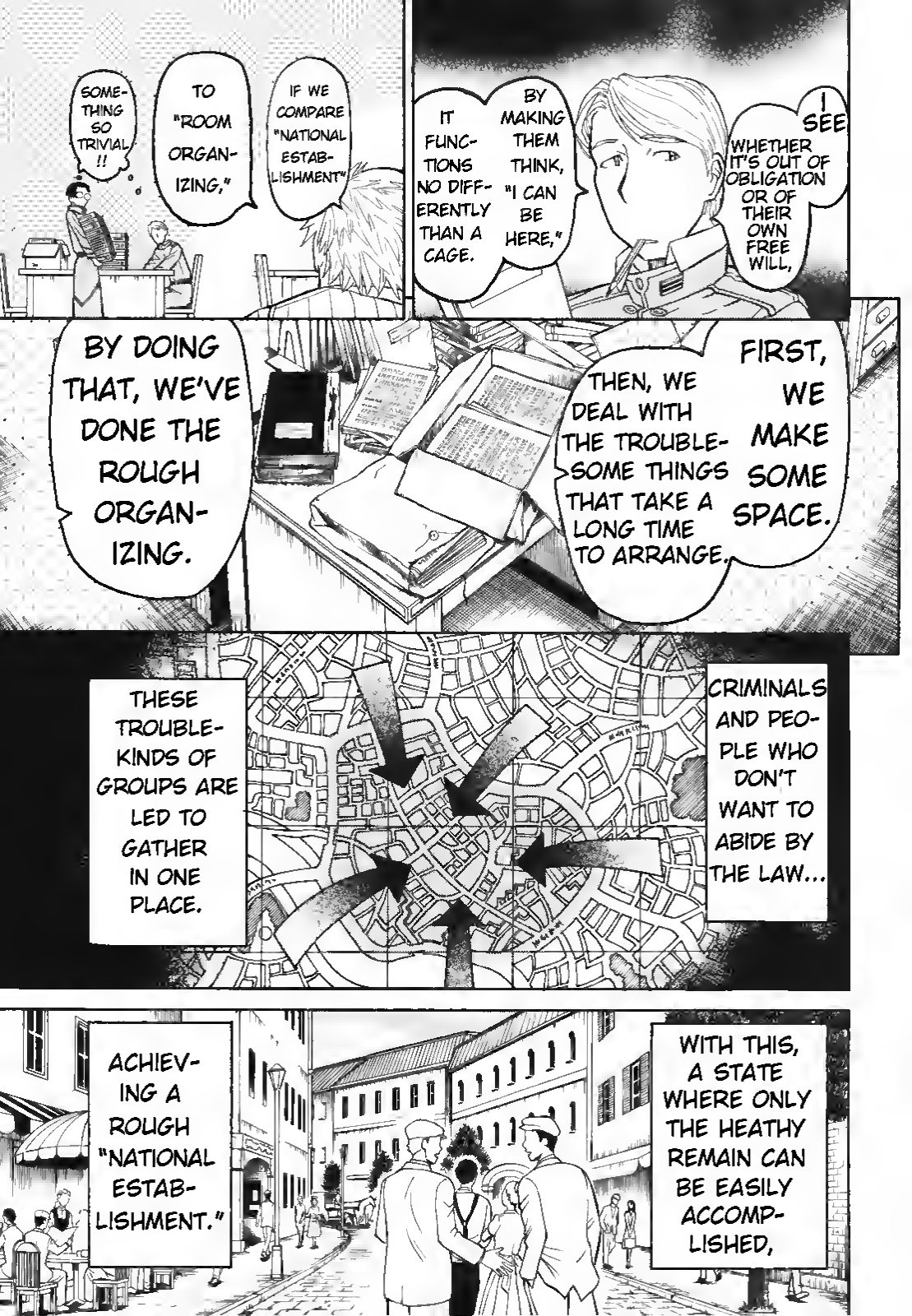
THEY OPERATE WITHIN THEIR APPOINTED SECTION OF THE PARTITIONED CITY.
MOST OF DISTRICT ZERO IS RULED BY SEVERAL BOSSES.
EVEN SO, THEY HAVE LAWS.
ISN'T DISTRICT ZERO JUST ONE PLACE?
"MOST?"
DURING THE...
END-LESS WAR...
THAT WAS THE ERA OF THE RISE OF CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LAWLESS PEOPLE.
THERE WAS INTERNAL DISORDER. PUBLIC SAFETY WAS DETERIORATING.
EVERY PUBLIC SAFETY ORAGANIZATION SET OUT TO EXTERMINATE THE CRIMINALS.
BECAUSE MOST OF THE EMPIRE'S FORCES WERE ALLOCATED TO THE FRONT LINES, MANY SECTORS WEREN'T ABLE TO FULLY EXERT THEIR STRENGHT.

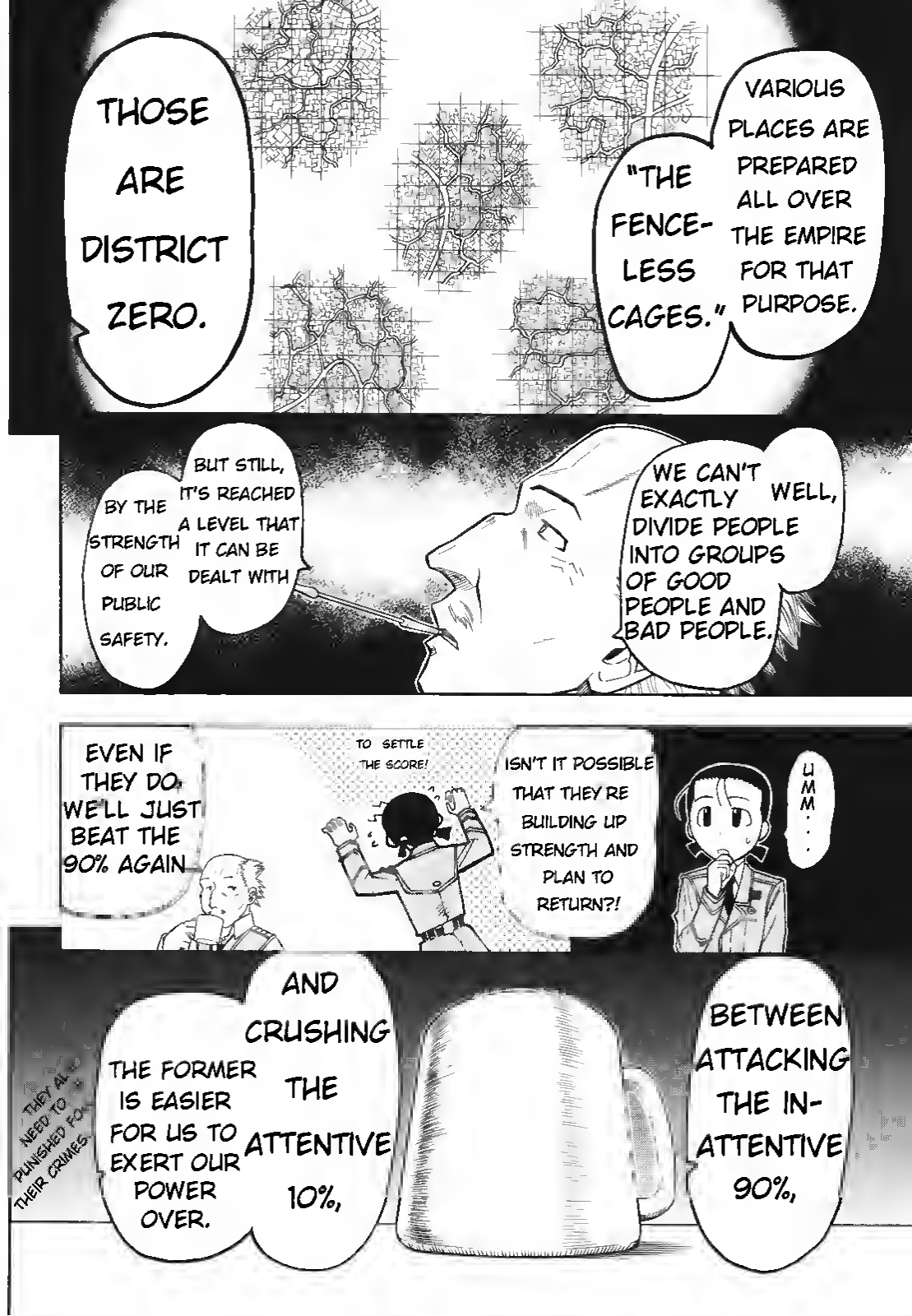

AFTER THEY WERE SCATTERED, THEY WENT INTO HIDING, AND THAT BIRTHED A NEW ORGANIZATION.
IT GAVE WAY TO THOSE WHO'D DISREGARD THEIR ORGANIZATION'S VALUES, GOING ON VIOLENT CRIME SPREES.
DEALING THE FINAL BLOW WAS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN EXPECTED.
ONLY ABOUT 90% COULD BE ERADICATED AS FOR THE REMAINING 10%...
HOWEVER, FOR ORGANIZATIONS OF A CERTAIN SCALE

THE LAST BLOW.
DID NOT DEAL
YES
BECAUSE OF THAT, THE EMPIRE...
RATS ARE MOST DANGEROUS WHEN BACKED INTO A CORNER, HUH?

A PLACE THAT MADE THEM WANT TO TAKE REFUGE.
NO,
THEY CREATED PLACE WHERE THE REMNANTS OF THE DESTROYED ORGANIZATION COULD TAKE REFUGE


IT BECAME A PLACE WHERE THE MOST SUITABLE PEOPLE TO RESTORE THE ORGANIZATION'S POWERS COULD ASSEMBLE IN PEACE.
WITHOUT IMPLEMENTING THE LAW, PEOPLE COULD COME AND GO FREELY.


SOMETHING SO TRIVIAL!!
TO "ROOM ORGANIZING,"
IF WE COMPARE "NATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT"
IT FUNCTIONS NO DIFFERENTLY THAN A CAGE.
BY MAKING THEM THINK, "I CAN BE HERE,"
I SEE WHETHER IT'S OUT OF OBLIGATION OR OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL,
BY DOING THAT, WE'VE DONE THE ROUGH ORGANIZING.
THEN, WE DEAL WITH THE TROUBLESOME THINGS THAT TAKE A LONG TIME TO ARRANGE.
FIRST, WE MAKE SOME SPACE.
THESE TROUBLE-KINDS OF GROUPS ARE LED TO GATHER IN ONE PLACE.
CRIMINALS AND PEOPLE WHO DON'T WANT TO ABIDE BY THE LAW...
ACHIEVING A ROUGH "NATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT."
WITH THIS, A STATE WHERE ONLY THE HEATHY REMAIN CAN BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED,


THOSE ARE DISTRICT ZERO.
"THE FENCE-LESS CAGES."
VARIOUS PLACES ARE PREPARED ALL OVER THE EMPIRE FOR THAT PURPOSE.
BUT STILL, IT'S REACHED A LEVEL THAT IT CAN BE DEALT WITH BY THE STRENGTH OF OUR PUBLIC SAFETY.
WE CAN'T EXACTLY DIVIDE PEOPLE INTO GROUPS OF GOOD PEOPLE AND BAD PEOPLE.
WELL, UMM...
EVEN IF THEY DO, WE'LL JUST BEAT THE 90% AGAIN
TO SETTLE THE SCORE!
ISN'T IT POSSIBLE THAT THEY'RE BUILDING UP STRENGTH AND PLAN TO RETURN?!
THEY ALL NEED TO BE PUNISHED FOR THEIR CRIMES.
AND CRUSHING THE ATTENTIVE 10%,
THE FORMER IS EASIER FOR US TO EXERT OUR POWER OVER.
BETWEEN ATTACKING THE IN-ATTENTIVE 90%,

WE CAN GRASP TRENDS IN THEIR MOVEMENTS.
IF WE OBSERVE THEIR CHANNELS OF DISTROBUTION,
ALSO, EVEN IF THEY ARE BUILDING UP STRENGTH, THEY CAN'T DEFY THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY THE CITY.
BUILDING UP THEIR STRENGTH IN THE CITY... IN OTHER WORDS, THOSE SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE.
THEY DON'T SEE THE NEED TO GO OUT AND PUT THEMSELVES IN DANGER.
THE "BOSSES OF THE TOWN" ARE MOSTLY COMPRISED OF THE ORGANIZATION'S EX-BOSSES WHO TOOK REFUGE THERE...
MORE IMPORTANTLY . . .
SHE COULDN'T APPROVE OF THAT.
EMPIRE IS ONLY POSTPONING THE CRIMINALS.
NAH, ULTIMATELY, THE
SO WE'RE PREPARED FOR THAT POSSIBILITY...!
I... SEE...

FROM 2 YEARS AGO...
THE ALICE L. MALVIN
A TRAVEL BAG!
SHE'S FROM THE OUT-SIDE!
...AH!
MELOS!
DON'T WANNA
MELOS!
!
TAP

IT HURTS
UHHH
A...ARE YOU OK, CHILD!? WHERE DOES IT HURT!?
!?
MY BODY AND MY HEART...
BODY... HEART... A HEART ATTACK !?
I BROUGHT PAIN-KILLERS WITH ME, BUT...
REACHES
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S SAFE FOR INFANTS!-
GRIP...
YOU...
YOU'RE THE FOURTH PERSON NOW.
EVEN CHILDREN LIKE YOU... THIS TOWN REALLY IS-
SHUDDER
GRIP

!?
HYUUNG
BIG BRO IDATEN!
BIG BRO IDATEN! LOOK! LOOK!
. . . . . !!
!?
WE'RE GETTING CAUGHT!
STARTLE
CAUGHT Y-

S
K
R
E
E
YOU!?
DOSH
RRRR!
.....
DON'T... PICK-POCKET ON YOUR OWN.
Rrrr
CRACK
SNAP
CLACK
snap
DASH
YOU'RE NOT GETT-ING AWAY!!

YOU WANT TO GO SHOPPING?
FOR OFFERINGS FOR BIG BRO BLANC AND THE OTHERS?
I KNOW IT'S SHAMELESS OF ME AFTER LEAVING LIKE THAT,
BUT STILL, TO NOT EVEN SEE THEM DURING THEIR MOMENTS OF DEATH IS, WELL...
.....
HAH!
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO SENTIMENTAL?
THAT'S THE NORMAL LIFESPAN OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS TOWN.
REALLY, YOU'VE BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE THE OLD DAYS.
TOUCH...
HEH?
EH....
WHAT...
ERM....

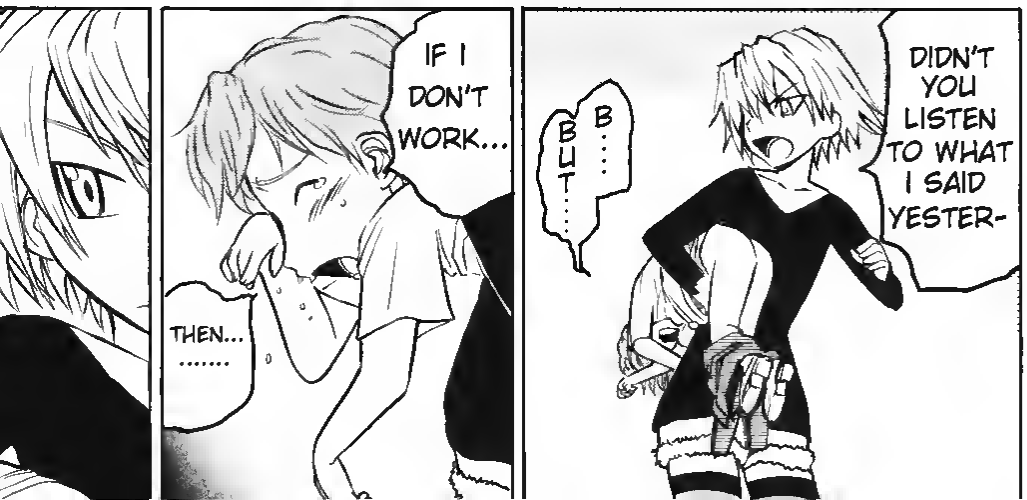
WHY ARE YOU PUTTING ON MAKE-UP EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT WORKING TODAY?
WIPE
IT'S NOT GOOD TO PUT ON MAKE-UP TOO OFTEN.
MOM SAID SO, DIDN'T SHE?
WIPE
BU... BUT, MY FRECK-LES ARE...
WE'RE FAMILY, SO DON'T MIND IT.
THE OTHER KIDS ARE FINE... BUT BIG BRO IS...
WHY IS IT NOT FINE FOR ME?
THUMP
THUMP
I THINK THEY'RE CUTE.
YOUR FRECKLES.
!
WELL THEN, I'M LEAVING.
I'LL BE BACK SOON.
BLUSH...
THUD

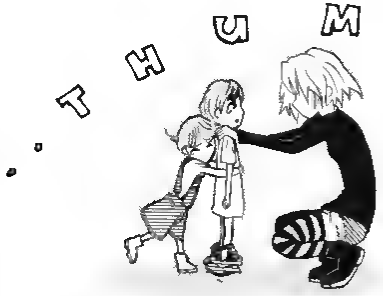
SI... SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN ...!?
OH MY, MISS URSULA, YOU REALLY ARE TOO INNOCENT.
HO HO HO
YEAH... THE BIRD-CAGE IS IN A MESS.
BUT I CAN'T JUST STAY HERE AND DO NOTHING.
TODAY'S... ACTUALLY, YOU CAN'T WORK FOR A WHILE.
OH, C.J. YOU GOING OUT?
IF YOU HIDE YOUR FEELINGS TOO HARD, YOU WON'T GET ANY-WHERE, YOU KNOW.
JUST LIKE YOUR MAKE-UP,
SEE YOU LATER, URSULA!
I THINK I'M GOING TO ASK THE BRANCH MANAGER FOR INSTR-UCTIONS
CLEAK
WELL THEN, I'M GOI...
C.J...
CALM DOWN, ME. CALM DOWN!

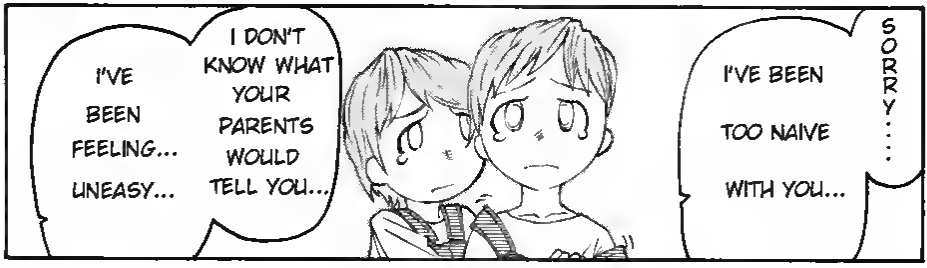
BAM
KYAAA!
WOOPS!
GRAB
ROLL ROLL ROLL
YOU CAN-NOT...
HUFF
HUFF
...RUN AWAY ANY-MORE!
EVEN IF THOSE CHILDREN ARE PICK-POCKETS...
I CAN'T LET A KIDNAPPING RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES GO!

NOW THEN!
RETURN THE CHIL...
IT LOOKED LIKE A KIDNAPPING, BUT YOU WERE ACTUALLY HELPING THEM ESCAPE?
...I SEE?
. . . . . .
SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE SOME-ONE FROM BOLMONT.
IT'S OK.
WHISPER
LISTEN TO WHAT I AM-
SO YOU WENT OUT PICK-POCKETING?
WHAT?
SHUDDER

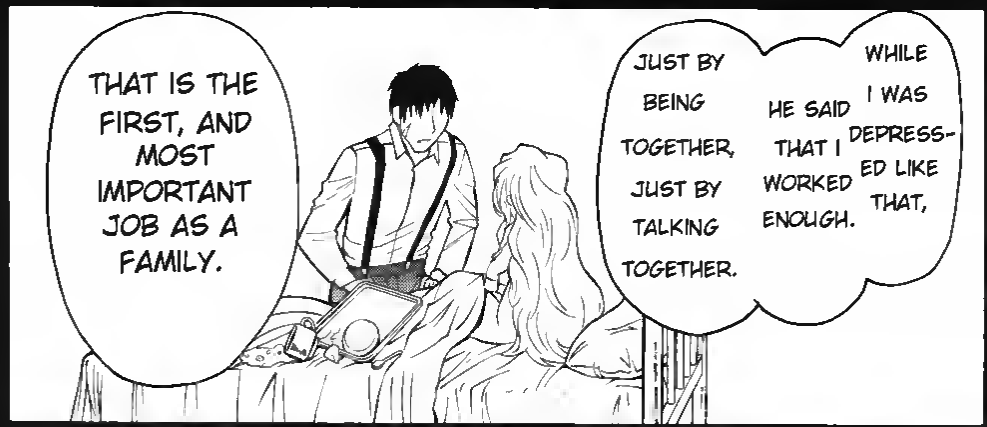
SWING...
BYOONG
SLAP
UWA AAAA HHNN!
DOING SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT CAPIBLE OF, YOU MIGHT DIE, YOU KNOW!
PICKPOCKETING ON YOUR OWN...


IF I DON'T WORK...
THEN... .....
B.... BUT.....
DIDN'T YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I SAID YESTER-


THUMP


I'VE BEEN FEELING... UNEASY...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR PARENTS WOULD TELL YOU...
I'VE BEEN TOO NAIVE WITH YOU...
SORRY.....

I THOUGHT THAT I WOULD JUST END UP DRAGGING MY LEGS FOREVER.
I DIDN'T KNOW IF I WOULD ACTUALLY GET BETTER OR NOT.
I WAS TOLD THAT I COULD JUST START WORKING ONCE I GOT BETTER, BUT...
BACK IN THE DAY, MY BODY WAS WEAK.

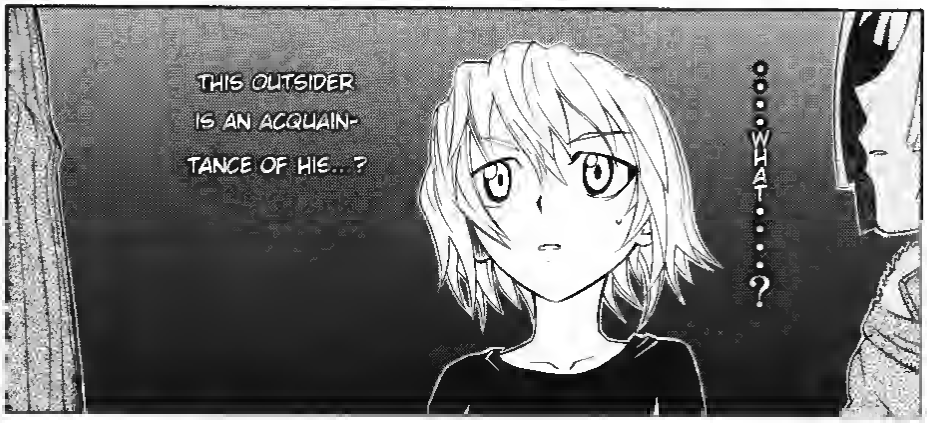

THAT IS THE FIRST, AND MOST IMPORTANT JOB AS A FAMILY.
JUST BY BEING TOGETHER, JUST BY TALKING TOGETHER.
HE SAID THAT I WORKED ENOUGH.
WHILE I WAS DEPRESSED LIKE THAT,

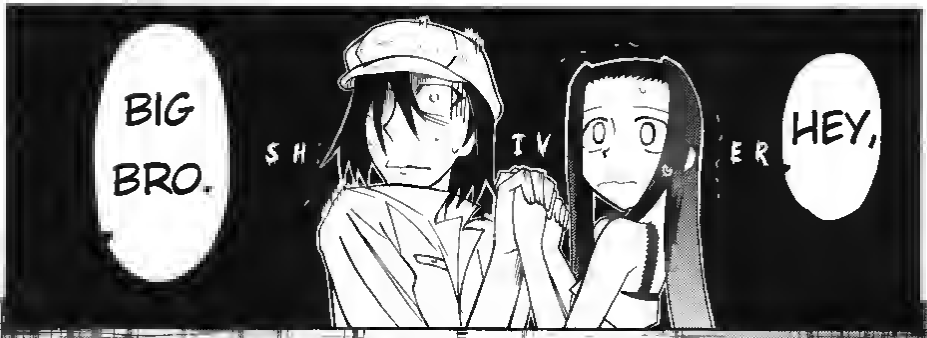
THIS IS NOT SELF-PITY.
THIS IS HOW IT IS.
AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALIVE, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF BAD THINGS IN THE WORLD.
MOST OF IT WILL BE AT THE COST OF GETTING FOOD.
THE ILLOGICAL BAD THINGS...
CAN ONLY BE DRIVEN AWAY BY THE ILLOGICAL WARM FEELINGS.
EVEN THEN,
MY BODY WAS STILL WEAK, AND I STILL COULDN'T EARN ANY MONEY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST GOING TO KEEP GETTING WORSE UNTIL I DIED.
EVEN SO...
DON'T EVER FORGET YOUR FIRST JOB...
BEING TOGETHER, TALKING TOGETHER...!

FAMILY.....!!
YOU SHOULDN'T DO DANGEROUS THINGS WITHOUT TELLING YOUR
I... I SEE...
THAT WAS TOO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND.
BUT, WE UNDERSTOOD THE LAST PART.
FROM NOW ON, WE SHOULD TALK WITH EACH OTHER PROPERLY.
.....
GOOD!
ERR... HOW DO I PUT THIS...
ANYONE WHO BREAKS THE PROMISE WILL GET A SPANKING!

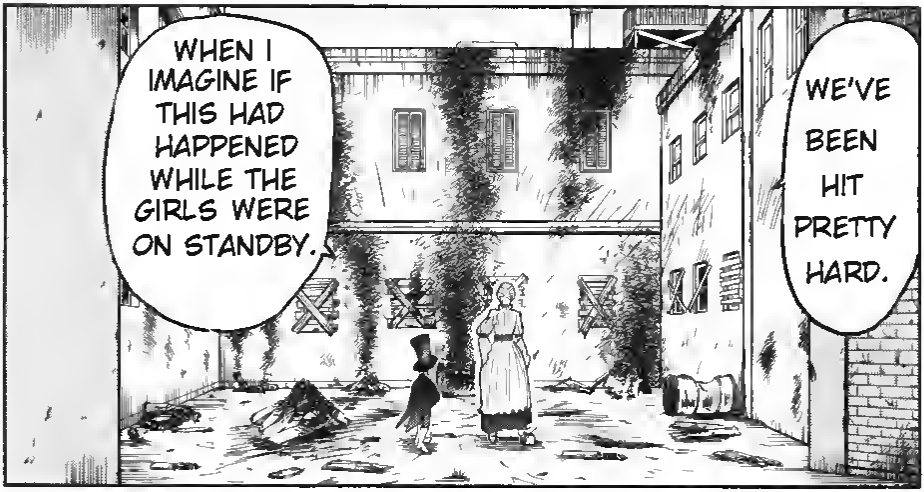
SIGH.
...WELL FOR NOW,
WOULD YOU RETURN MY BAG?
YOU'RE FROM THE OUTSIDE, RIGHT?
THERE'S NO POLICE IN THIS TOWN, YOU KNOW?
I KNOW.
HOW DID YOU I WAS FROM THE OUTSIDE?
EVEN MY LITTLE BROTHER AND SISTER CAN TELL WHICH BAG IS AN EASY TARGET...
BECAUSE YOU SEEM A BIT SLOW.
YOU LITTLE...
DISREGARDING THAT IRRELEVANT REMARK...
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE SO AGGRESSIVE?
I DONT KNOW WHY, BUT I FEEL THE URGE TO JUST BEAT YOU UP RIGHT HERE!!
MY INSTINCT SAYS SO!
I SEE... THEN YOU DON'T MIND IF I GET SERIOUSLY ANGRY!?

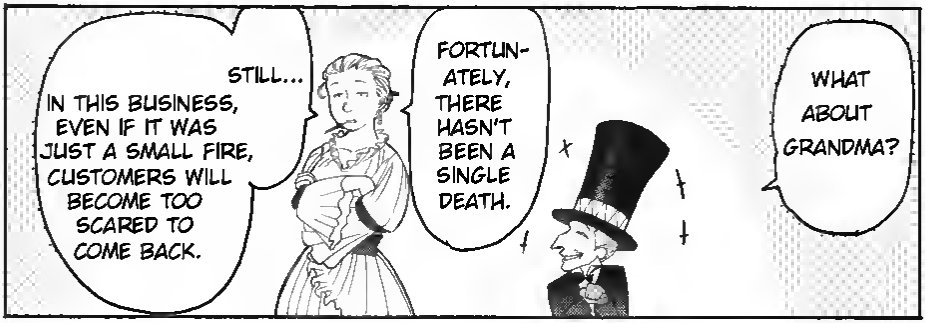
CK
CL
I'M BACK, URSULA.
WE HAVE A VISITOR?
LIEU-TENANT ...

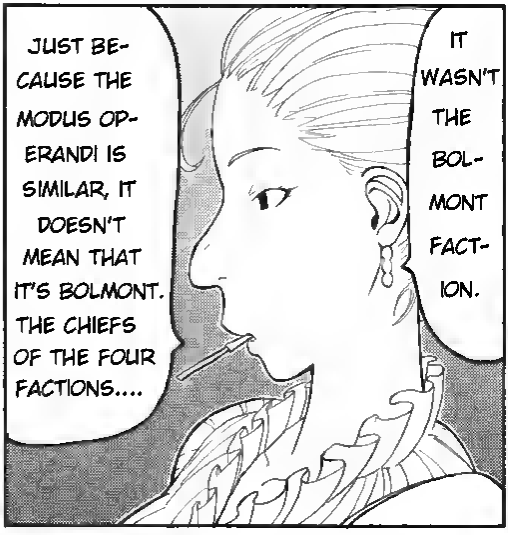

THIS OUTSIDER IS AN ACQUAINTANCE OF HIE..?
...WHAT....?


BIG BRO.
SH
IV
ER
HEY,

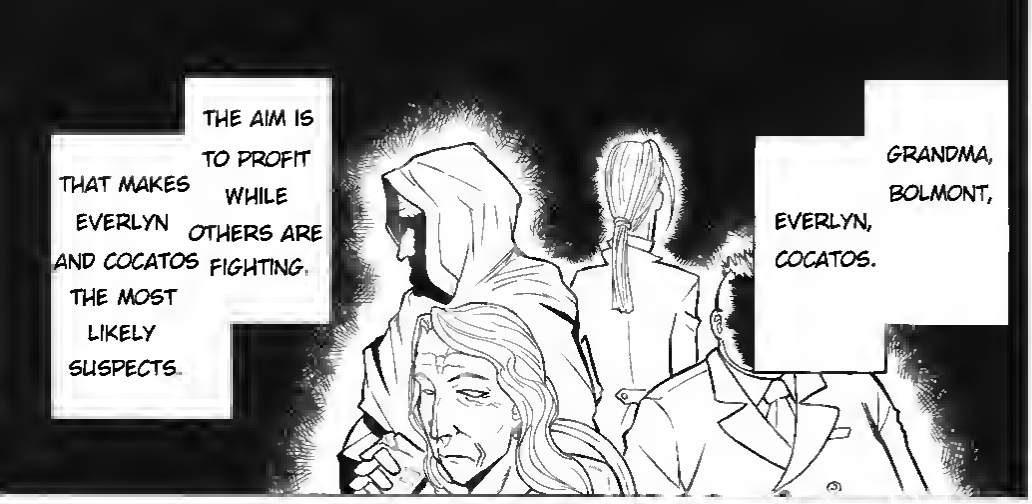
THIS WOMAN?
WHO IS


WHEN I IMAGINE IF THIS HAD HAPPENED WHILE THE GIRLS WERE ON STANDBY.
WE'VE BEEN HIT PRETTY HARD.

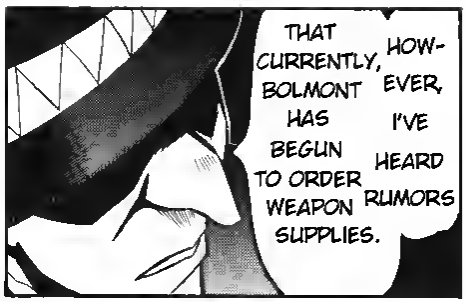

STILL... IN THIS BUSINESS, EVEN IF IT WAS JUST A SMALL FIRE, CUSTOMERS WILL BECOME TOO SCARED TO COME BACK.
FORTUN-ATELY, THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE DEATH.
WHAT ABOUT GRANDMA?


JUST BE-CAUSE THE MODUS OP-ERANDI IS SIMILAR, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT'S BOLMONT. THE CHIEFS OF THE FOUR FACTIONS....
IT WASN'T THE BOL-MONT FACT-ION.

GOOD GRIEF.
IS IT ALREADY TIME TO PREPARE FOR WAR AGAINST THE BOLMONT FACTION?


GRANDMA, BOLMONT, EVERLYN, COCATOS.
THE AIM IS TO PROFIT WHILE OTHERS ARE FIGHTING.
THAT MAKES EVERLYN AND COCATOS THE MOST LIKELY SUSPECTS.

...TOPPER,
WHO DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM?

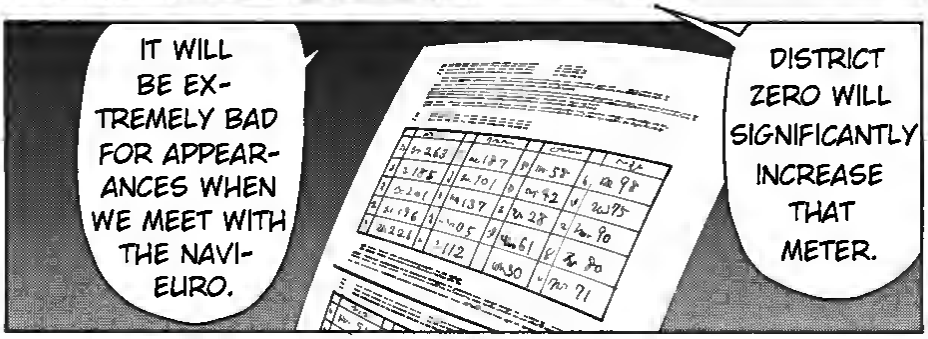

HOWEVER, I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT CURRENTLY, BOLMONT HAS BEGUN TO ORDER WEAPON SUPPLIES.

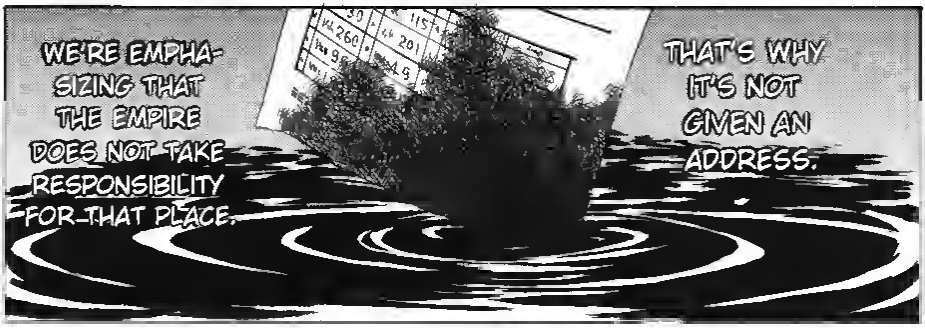
HEH!
IT WAS A SPECIAL FAVOR I RECEIVED...

FROM A FREQUENT CUSTOMER.
HYUUUU
DISTRICT ZERO. JUST LIKE THE NAME IMPLIES,

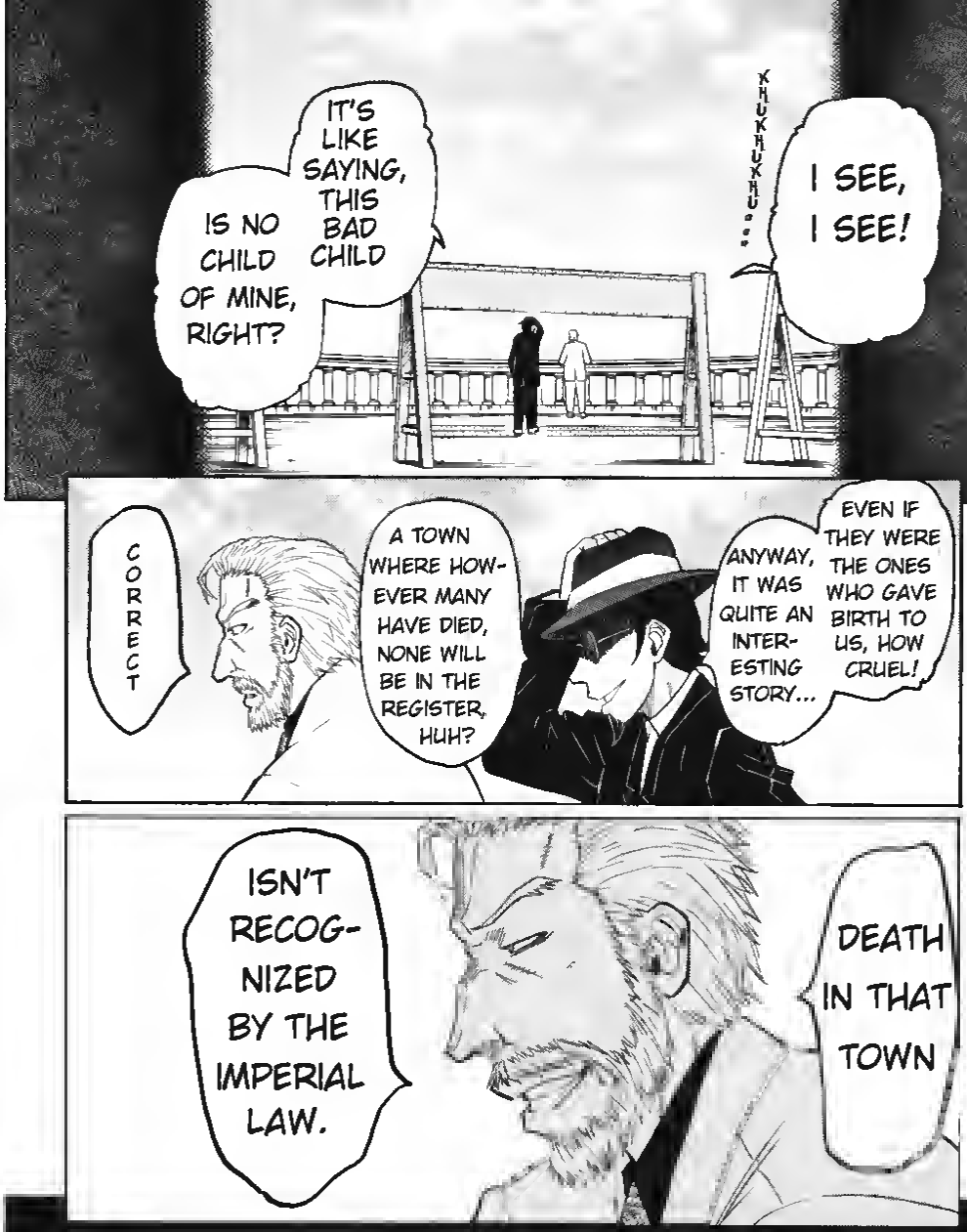
DO YOU KNOW WHY?
NO ADDRESS WAS GIVEN FOR THIS AREA.
HMPH!
I DON'T KNOW.
WE SPECIALIZE IN MANUAL LABOR, AFTER ALL.
IT WILL BECOME "THE EMPIRE'S TOWN."
BECAUSE IF IT'S GIVEN AN ADDRESS,
THEIR INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SAFETY AND ECONOMY CAN CHANGE INTO SUDDEN DEATH AS EASILY AS FLIPPING A CARD.
THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF CRIME AND STARVATION IN THAT TOWN BORDERS ON THE EXTREME.

THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE DYING FOR THOSE REASONS IS A METER INDICATING A COUNTRIES LACK OF POWER.
THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF CRIMES, AND THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF STARVATION.


IT WILL BE EXTREMELY BAD FOR APPEARANCES WHEN WE MEET WITH THE NAVI-EURO.
DISTRICT ZERO WILL SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THAT METER.


WE'RE EMPHASIZING THAT THE EMPIRE DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT PLACE.
THAT'S WHY IT'S NOT GIVEN AN ADDRESS.

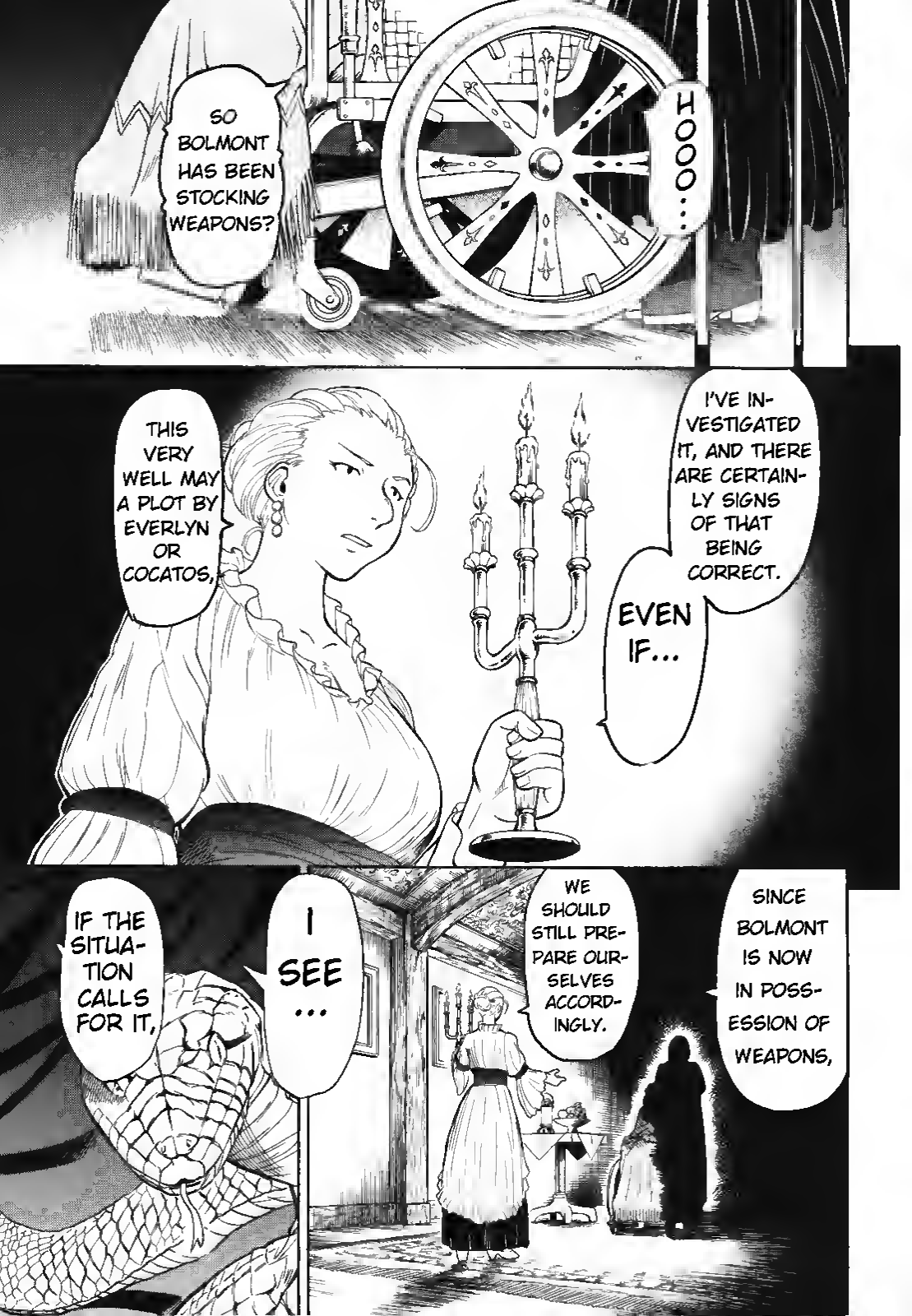
THE PEOPLE WHO DIE THERE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE EMPIRE'S REGISTER!!
IT'S SO WE CAN MAKE IT THAT


I SEE, I SEE!
KHUKHUKHU...
IT'S LIKE SAYING, THIS BAD CHILD IS NO CHILD OF MINE, RIGHT?
EVEN IF THEY WERE THE ONES WHO GAVE BIRTH TO US, HOW CRUEL!
ANYWAY, IT WAS QUITE AN INTER-ESTING STORY...
A TOWN WHERE HOW-EVER MANY HAVE DIED, NONE WILL BE IN THE REGISTER, HUH?
CORRECT
DEATH IN THAT TOWN
ISN'T RECOG-NIZED BY THE IMPERIAL LAW.

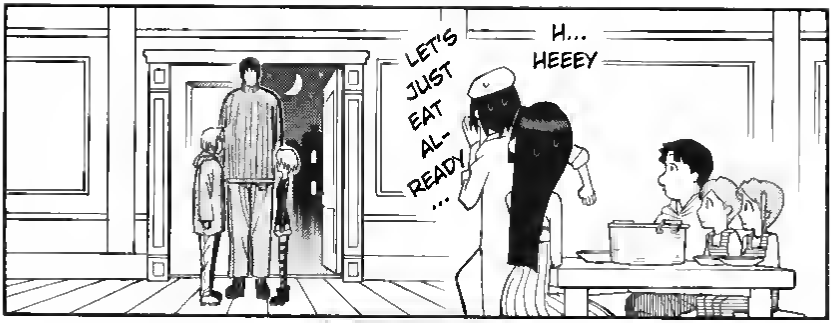
FOR EXAMPLE...

I WILL NOT BE CHARGED WITH ANY CRIME.
EVEN IF I MASSACRE THE RESIDENTS OF THIS TOWN,
TO SAVE IT, OUR FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE DISCARDING "UNNECESSARY CARGO."
THE EMPIRE IS NOW BUT A SINKING BOAT.
ARE PRECISLEY THAT "UN NECESSARY CARGO."
AND THE RESIDENTS OF DISTRICT ZERO

NEVI-
EURO
JOINT
SUMMIT...
THE
EMPIRE'S
FUTURE
IS ALREADY
DECIDED.
UNTIL
THE DAY
OF THE
SUMMIT
THE
TUMOR
WITHIN
THE
EMPIRE
!!
I WILL
EXTER-
MINATE


HOOO...
SO BOLMONT HAS BEEN STOCKING WEAPONS?
I'VE INVESTIGATED IT, AND THERE ARE CERTAINLY SIGNS OF THAT BEING CORRECT.
EVEN IF...
THIS VERY WELL MAY A PLOT BY EVERLYN OR COCATOS,
SINCE BOLMONT IS NOW IN POSSESSION OF WEAPONS,
WE SHOULD STILL PREPARE OURSELVES ACCORDINGLY.
I SEE...
IF THE SITUATION CALLS FOR IT,

WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO TO WAR...

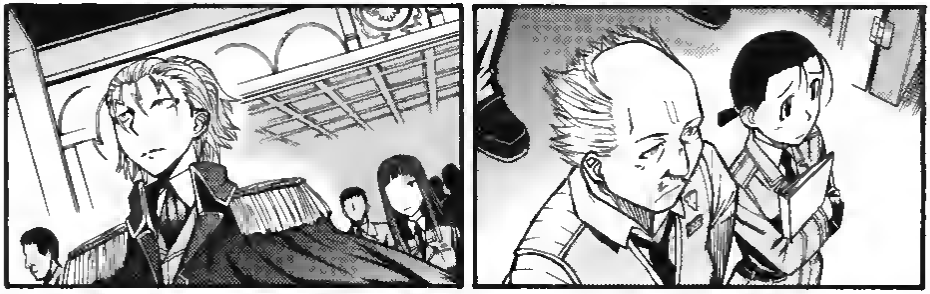

LET'S JUST EAT AL- READY ...
H... HEEEY

#37／END

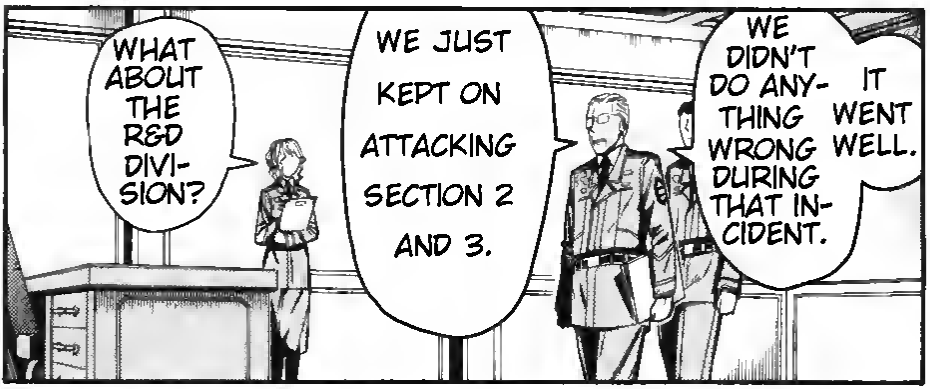
PumpkinScissors

Interval

THE COUNCIL HEARING FOR THE KARUSSEL INCIDENT
IS CLOSED FOR THE DAY.

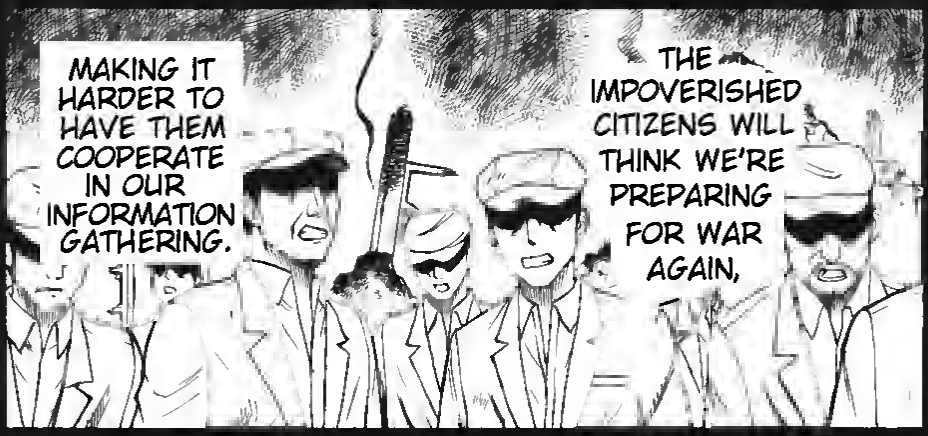


HOW WAS THE COUNCIL?

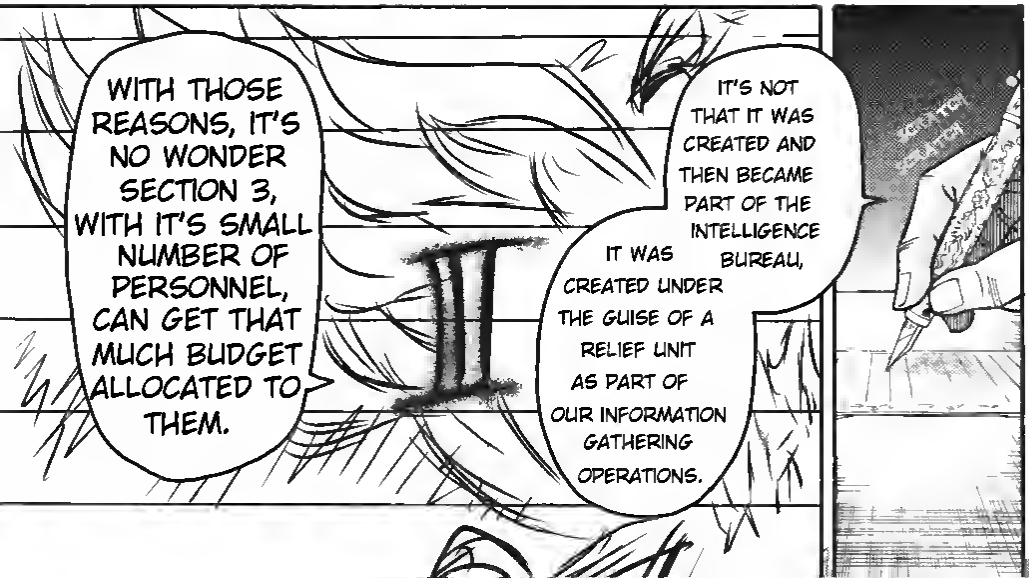

IT WENT WELL.
WE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING WRONG DURING THAT IN-CIDENT.
WE JUST KEPT ON ATTACKING SECTION 2 AND 3.
WHAT ABOUT THE R&D DIVI-SION?

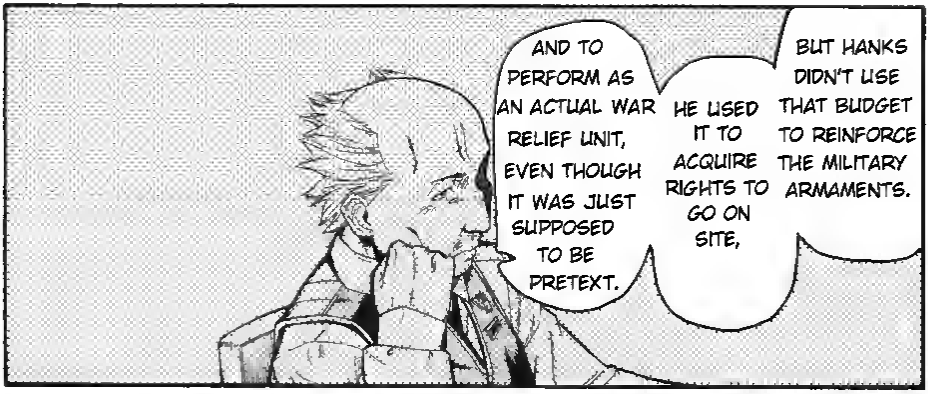
THEY WERE ABSENT
BECAUSE THEY HAD TO PREPARE FOR THE NAVI-EURO TECHNO-LOGICAL EXCHANGE ASSEMBLY.
THAT WAS THEIR EXCUSE
WE CAN DO IT.
IF WE GATHER A BIT MORE MATERIAL.
WE CAN COMPLETELY CRUSH SECTION 3.
NO.
WE NEED SECTION 3.
HMPH!
HANKS' SECTION 3...
THAT'S UNEXPECTED. YOU'VE BEEN TREATING THEM AS ENEMIES ALL THIS TIME...

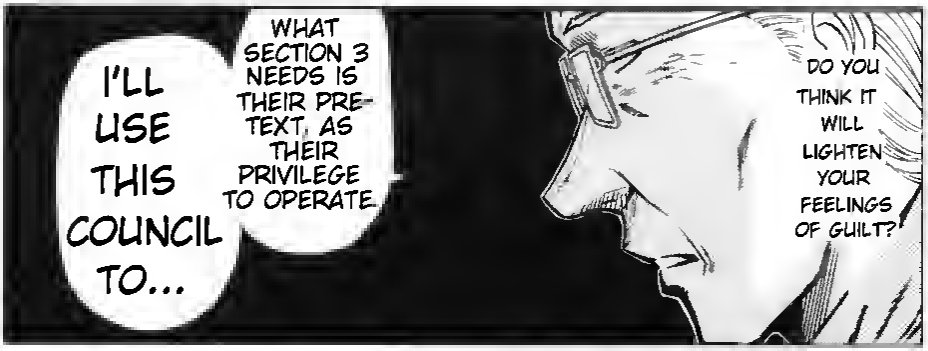
SECTION 3...NO, THE WAR RELIEF UNIT.
WHY WAS IT ESTABBLISHED IN THE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU?
THERE TWO BIG REASONS.
THE FIRST IS "SO WE CAN EASILY USE TAX MONEY."
YES.
"IN ORDER TO DEAL WITH POST-WAR RELIEF, THE ARMY STILL NEEDS TO BE FUNDED."
TO SPREAD THAT IMAGE AS WIDE AS POSSIBLE,
THEY CHOSE THE DIVISION THAT EXCELS AT USING INFORMATION.
CORRECT. AND THE OTHER ONE IS...
"TO SMOOTHLY CONDUCT DOMESTIC INFORMATION GATHERING."
WE NEED TO KNOW ALL STATUS QUO REGARDING THE WAR.
HOWEVER, IF WE'RE JUST USING THE ARMY TO VISIT VARIOUS PLACES AND GATHER INFORMATION,


MAKING IT HARDER TO HAVE THEM COOPERATE IN OUR INFORMATION GATHERING.
THE IMPOVERISHED CITIZENS WILL THINK WE'RE PREPARING FOR WAR AGAIN,

I SEE.
"WE'RE NOT HERE TO PREPARE FOR WAR, WE'RE HERE TO PROVIDE RELIEF."
BY SAYING THAT, WE CAN GET THE COOPERATION OF THE CIVILIANS.
THAT'S RIGHT. IN SHORT,


WITH THOSE REASONS, IT'S NO WONDER SECTION 3, WITH IT'S SMALL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL, CAN GET THAT MUCH BUDGET ALLOCATED TO THEM.
IT WAS CREATED UNDER THE GUISE OF A RELIEF UNIT AS PART OF OUR INFORMATION GATHERING OPERATIONS.
IT'S NOT THAT IT WAS CREATED AND THEN BECAME PART OF THE INTELLIGENCE BUREAU,
SCRATCH SCRATCH


AND TO PERFORM AS AN ACTUAL WAR RELIEF UNIT, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS JUST SUPPOSED TO BE PRETEXT.
HE USED IT TO ACQUIRE RIGHTS TO GO ON SITE,
BUT HANKS DIDN'T USE THAT BUDGET TO REINFORCE THE MILITARY ARMAMENTS.


I'LL USE THIS COUNCIL TO...
WHAT SECTION 3 NEEDS IS THEIR PRE-TEXT, AS THEIR PRIVILEGE TO OPERATE.
DO YOU THINK IT WILL LIGHTEN YOUR FEELINGS OF GUILT?

OF
THOSE
RIGHTS!!
DEPRIVE
SECTION
3

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
TAMPAN-SCANS
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RAW-CANS.NET
-TRANSLATOR/QC:
REDSUISEI
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